

**Scott Brown
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Supervisor John Venditto
Town Hall East
54 Audrey Avenue
Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771

Dear Supervisor Venditto:

While I have a tremendous respect for you and am especially grateful that you have taken the time on many occasions to be present at troop 660's Boy Scout Eagle ceremonies I was disappointed on your stance concerning the Offshore Wind Park during your statements last week before the Minerals Management Service public comment session. Rather than support it, you instead chose to take a middle ground position in requesting a time extension. I respectfully disagree with your position and would suggest otherwise as follows.

This whole debate boils down to just one thing - producing power for Long Island. Right now, over half of LI's energy comes from three power plants; Island Park, Port Jefferson and Northport which were built in 1956, 1958 and 1967 respectively. You can imagine what the emissions are with 50 year old technology. Any new kilowatts from wind power will mean those old behemoths will produce exactly less. In an area which is increasingly getting more crowded with less open space we should do everything possible to reduce emissions. How many areas just recently had no clean drinking water? How many cases of breast cancer are there? How many beaches were closed just recently? Burning oil sure doesn't help this situation.

Critics of wind power say they support it, just not here. Implying that if it's somewhere else it's Ok. Well, here on LI we are an electrical island. Kilowatts from upstate can't get here. Critics say wind power is more expensive and we should build conventional oil/gas technology - but not here. This implies that it's ok to pollute somewhere else. But unfortunately, all that deforestation and acid lakes in the Adirondacks are the result of pollution from the west. Critics say we should conserve more. I agree, but how many people had their air conditioners and pool filters OFF two days ago during that heat wave? How many people have added second computers, fax machines and big screen TV's in the last few years. Let's face it, we are adding more stuff. I fully support wise energy

efficient choices. I even have solar panels installed on my roof which produce about 80% of my annual electric needs, but when the sun sets, my TV is on & so is my air conditioner along with the computer.

Another critique raised has been that 40 wind mills producing 140 MW is just a drop in the bucket, so we shouldn't do it. That's a ridiculous argument since if the project was 400 wind mills, would the critics then turn around and support it? Of course not.

On LI, almost every town has these big ugly industrial platforms which spoil our view, but we won't discuss them since we think their necessary. I'm speaking of course about the ubiquitous water towers. In Massapequa, homes within their "falling down range" don't seem to be at all impacted in terms of their re-sale value. I sincerely doubt whether any resident in Massapequa will be able to see these wind mills from his or her own home. I also doubt whether or not anyone at the TOBAY marina will see them while sitting on their boats.

Given the choice between more oil/gas fired generation and wind power, I'm confused as to why anyone would choose the former.

If the wind power project is not moved forward, LIPA will just have to add 140 Mw from another source and given today's realities, it will be oil/gas. Natural gas has also become more scarce due to pipeline infrastructure limitations. There have been a couple of projects to add off shore LNG facilities, but these are being met with strong protest from all sectors, so it is doubtful if they will ever move forward. Promoting and encouraging renewable energy means more than waving the flag, it means saying yes to a project here on LI.

Respectfully yours,

Scott Brown